

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 (currently amended): An accountability and identification system, comprising:
 - a plurality of touch sensors, each touch sensor including
 - a memory and
 - information stored in the memory,
 - at least one of the touch sensors being a personal identification touch sensor having user information on a unique user stored in the memory;
 - at least one of the touch sensors being a data touch sensor having user information on a unique group of users stored in the memory; and
 - at least one instrument, each instrument including
 - a receptacle adapted for momentarily receiving the personal identification touch sensor to read the user information stored therein,
 - a microprocessor in electrical communication with the receptacle, the microprocessor having a memory portion for storing operating software and the user information read by the receptacle, and
 - a display in electrical communication with the microprocessor, the display providing a visual indication of portions of the user information selected by the operating software.
- 2 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 wherein the memory portion of the microprocessor comprises flash memory and read only memory.
- 3 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 wherein the memory of the touch sensor comprises a programmable silicon chip.
- 4 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 wherein the user information includes a user identifier, next of kin, role, and medical information unique to the user.
- 5 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 wherein the microprocessor also has a data port, each touch sensor also includes first and second electrical contacts, and the receptacle has first and second electrical contacts in electrical communication with the data port, the first and second electrical contacts of the touch sensor being contacted to the first and second electrical contacts of the receptacle, respectively, to read the information stored in the memory of the touch sensor.
- 6 (canceled)
- 7 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 wherein at least one of the touch sensors is a data touch sensor having incident data stored in the memory.

8 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 wherein each instrument includes an operator interface in electrical communication with the microprocessor for controlling operation of the operating software.

9 (original): The information and identification system of claim 8 wherein the operating software includes station, accountability, and sector modes of operation and the operator interface includes a mode button for selecting the mode of operation.

10 (original): The information and identification system of claim 9 wherein the operator interface includes first and second function buttons and the operating software includes WHO, YES, NO, ADD, OUT, acknowledge (ACK), TIME, and Personnel Accountability Report (PAR) initiation functions, the mode of operation assigning one of the software functions to the first and second function buttons.

11 (original): The information and identification system of claim 8 wherein the operator interface includes a pair of scroll buttons.

12 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 wherein each instrument includes an infrared port, the operating software controlling transmission of data through the infrared port.

13 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 wherein the operating software includes station, accountability, and sector modes of operation, wherein all instruments operating in sector mode communicate with a single instrument operating in accountability mode.

14 (original): The information and identification system of claim 13 wherein each instrument further includes a radio or cellular component providing communications between the instruments operating in sector mode and the instrument operating in accountability mode.

15 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 further including an immediate danger to life and health (IDLH) device, one of the touch sensors being an IDLH touch sensor mounted to the IDLH device, the IDLH touch sensor having IDLH information unique to the specific IDLH device stored in the memory.

16 (original): The information and identification system of claim 15 wherein the IDLH information is selected from the group consisting of a unique identifier, the name of the IDLH device, the rated lifetime of the IDLH device, the remaining lifetime of the IDLH device, and the time the IDLH device was logged-out for use.

17 (original): The information and identification system of claim 1 further including a central record keeping computer adapted for receiving data from an instrument.

18-33 (canceled)